

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NEA-10 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DRC-01 IO-14 /111 W

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R 090650Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9008

USIA WASHDC

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

USNATO BRUSSELS 1169

CINCUSNAVEUR

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL TRIESTE

AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

UNCLAS BELGRADE 1642

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OGEN, YO, US, NATO

SUBJ : MEDIA REACTION REPORT: "DARK IMAGE" MANEUVERS

REF : BELGRADE 1623

1. SUMMARY: YUGOSLAV MEDIA APRIL 7-8 CONTINUE REPORTS OF VARIOUS PROTEST MEETINGS AND STATEMENTS OF YUGOSLAV LEADERS CONDEMNING "IRREDENTIST CLAIMS," WITH PERSISTING REFERENCE ALSO TO ITALIAN-U.S. "DARK IMAGE" MANEUVERS, BUT IN DIMINISHED VOLUME AND ABATED TONE. FULL TEXT EMBASSY PRESS RELEASE CARRIED "RED" TANJUG. ARRIVAL OF SIXTH FLEET VESSELS IN TRIESTE REPORTED STRAIGHT, AS "FRIENDLY VISIT", WITHOUT COMMENT SO FAR. END SUMMARY

2. LEADING BELGRADE DAILY POLITIKA APRIL 8, (PAR2) INCLUDES LENGTHY TANJUG REPORT FROM ROME ON ITALIAN CP ORGAN RINASCITA UNCLASSIFIED

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VIEW OF ITALIAN-YUGOSLAV DISPUTE, WITH HEADLINE: "QUESTION OF

BORDERS WITH YUGOSLAVIA ARTIFICIALLY HEATED." IMMEDIATELY BELOW THIS ITEM, POLITIKA CARRIES BRIEF TANJUG NEWS ITEM FROM TRIESTE, ON VISIT OF U.S. NAVAL SHIPS TO THAT PORT. IN STRAIGHT-NEWS REPORT, TANJUG DESPATCH MERELY NOTES THAT U.S. SHIPS HAD PARTICIPATED IN COMBINED ITALIAN-U.S. MANEUVERS IN AREA OF NORTHEAST ITALY, AND REPORTS THAT "BASED ON STATEMENT OF U.S. CONSULATE IN TRIESTE, " SHIPS WILL REMAIN FOR SEVERAL DAYS ON FRIENDLY VISIT, WHICH WILL INCLUDE SHIP TOURS FOR VISITORS AND SPORTS PROGRAM WITH LOCAL TEAMS. SAME TANJUG ITEM ALSO IN SARAJEVO'S OSLOBODJENJE.

3. BELGRADE'S BORBA (APRIL 8) CONTINUES ITS NEWS REPORTING OF COUNTRY-WIDE PROTESTS, WITH HEADLINE: "WE ARE NOT AFRAID OF NOTES OR MANEUVERS" (BRIEF COLUMN LOWER-LEFT, P.1, WITH 3 COLUMNS, P.2). BELGRADE AFTERNOON DAILY, VECERNJE NOVOSTI APRIL 7 CARRIED REVIEW, "DARK IMAGE-EVIL OCCASION," BY MILITARY COMMENTATOR, DIMITRIJE SESERINAC-GEDZA, WHICH VIEWS "MASSIVE COMBINED MANEUVERS" AS IN CONCERT WITH ITALIAN "IR-REDENTIST CLAIMS."

4. YUGOSLAV PRESS APRIL 8 ALSO DEVOTES ATTENTION TO REMARKS OF CROATIAN CP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SECRETARY, JOSIP VRHOVEC, OF CROATIAN PARTY CONGRESS. ITALIAN PRETENSIONS TO YUGOSLAV TERRITORY, CHARGED VRHOVEC, ARE RESURRECTING "EVIL GHOSTS OF PAST," WHILE "PAPER STRENGTH" OF AMBITIONS IS BOLSTERED BY NATO EXERCISES AND "WAR GAMES OF AMERICAN SIXTH FLEET IN NORTHERN ADRIATIC."

5. "RED" TANJUG BULLETIN (APRIL 5), DISTRIBUTED TO YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT AND PARTY LEADERS, CARRIES FULL TEXT OF EMBASSY PRESS RELEASE ON "DARK IMAGE" MANEUVERS. SAME DAY "RED" TANJUG ALSO INCLUDES AP REPORT OF PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS OF STATE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE, JOHN KING, ON SUBJECT OF "DARK IMAGE, 74" MANEUVERS.
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